

At Odds Over the President.

Tacoma and Seattle Quarreling for Possession of Him.

Here are two of our youngest and most enterprising cities of the Northwest quarreling like two old fish-women over the question of which shall have charge of President Roosevelt and his party when the President is escorted to the Puget Sound navy yard a fortnight hence. Tacoma and Seattle are at it hot and heavy, and the wars of the Montagus and Capulets would seem like peaceful love feasts in comparison.

Tacoma, it seems, will have the first bite at the cherry—if you can associate with our present President a fruit which usually calls up suggestions of Washington and his little tomahawk. She will get her talons on the Great American Traveler, who is now doing the continent with an eye single to a second term, and in arranging a run up the Sound she had planned to shut out her sister city. No more than twenty-five persons besides the President are to be allowed on board the little steamer, and twenty-five "prominent citizens" of Tacoma have already been invited. Yet the navy yard at Bremerton is somewhat nearer Seattle than Tacoma.

Now, what is to be done? Plainly, Tacoma has got the apple and has remarked to Seattle, "There is to be no core." But President Roosevelt wants Seattle votes as much as he wants those of the Tacoma brand, and it is not likely that he will permit himself to be turned into a stalking horse for the purpose of puffing the civic pride of one little pine-board town at the expense of a sister hemlock city. What will he do about it? Cannot he send a double to Seattle, some one to read off one of his favorite speeches?

As for cutting the President in two and enjoying him share and share alike, we cannot for an instant countenance the suggestion. Why not toss up a red cent or else meet on the gory field of honor and fight it out to a finish?

Boy Criminals.

The Difficult Problem of Reforming Them.

A twelve-year-old boy was recently convicted, in Chicago, of a burglary ingenious enough for an experienced criminal. The judge, in passing sentence, said that he could not draw the line in ages, and that some boys no older than this could teach lessons of crime to men in the penitentiary. Nobody is likely to be severe on the judge for refusing to be lenient with this young offender. In fact, it is difficult to know just what ought to be done with so young a criminal. His reformation, to be effective, should have been begun with his ancestors.

There are hundreds of boys of this type in every great city, looking forward to the life of the "erook," and proud of any particularly successful bit of lawbreaking. There is not much doubt that this boy, if sentenced to prison, will regard himself as something of a hero for having been caught in a penitentiary of fence. What is to be done with such a youngster? What hope is there that he will ever be anything but a thief?

The unfortunate feature of the situation is that very little has been done anywhere to save such boys from drifting into criminal life. They are the most difficult problem of the modern city. They are street-bred and street-trained, and the utmost patience, kindness, and sagacity are needed if their reform is to be undertaken hopefully. They are averse to routine work, or to any sort of work if they can avoid it. They enjoy living by their wits. Obviously, the only practical plan for their reformation will be one which will employ their wits as well as their hands, and this has not, in most cases, been tried.

Yet there is no reason to regard

the present situation as exceptionally unfortunate. The time of Fagin and his pupils in London is not yet a hundred years behind us. The boy criminal is not a new thing. He is a survival of old and savage conditions.

A Doubtful Withdrawal.

Mr. Cleveland's Latest Letter Not an Absolute Immolation.

There are declinations and declinations. Some are unmistakable; some are dubious. The heart may many times say yes while the lips say no. Refusals to the ear may not be refusals to the hope.

We are disposed to think that the Hon. Grover Cleveland has not altogether taken himself out of the next Presidential canvass—or, at least, out of the canvass for the Democratic nomination—by the letter he has just written to an inquiring Georgia editor. This Southern well-wisher bluntly asked Mr. Cleveland on May 4 whether he "was now considering or would consider making the race for the Presidency next year on the Democratic ticket." In an answer dated at Princeton, May 6, the ex-President says:

Dear Sir: I thank you for your letter of the 4th instant, and for the editorial clipping from your paper which accompanied it. I cannot fail to be gratified by the kindly expressions which frequently come to me in these days from all parts of our country, and I desire to thank you for your loyal support in the past and for your exceedingly friendly expressions at this time. In answer to the questions with which you conclude your letter, I can say no more than to assure you that at no time since the close of my last Administration have I been desirous of carrying the Democratic banner for the fourth time in a Presidential contest.

Yours, very truly,
GROVER CLEVELAND.

This is a startlingly discreet and politic response to the Georgia editor's candid inquiry. Can it be taken as closing "the door of hope" on those enthusiasts who see in Mr. Cleveland's renomination next year the only chance of Democratic regeneration or Democratic victory? Is there a word in the Sage of Princeton's answer betraying a reluctance on his part to violate the anti-third term precept of Washington and of Jefferson? Does Mr. Cleveland ascribe his disinclination "to carry the Democratic banner for a fourth time" to delicacy of scruple or sense of duty?

The founder of the party which Mr. Cleveland has led in three Presidential contests was far more explicit and more courageous in thrusting aside the temptations of a third term candidacy. Thomas Jefferson, the idol of the Democracy of his day, was importuned in 1807 and 1808 by the Legislatures of six States—Vermont, Georgia, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and North Carolina—to stand for a third election to the Presidency. But in 1808 he wrote this unequivocal refusal:

That I should lay down my charge at a proper period is as much a duty as to have borne it faithfully. If some termination to the service of the Chief Magistracy be not fixed by the Constitution or supplied by practice his duty, annually for years, will in fact become for life, and history shows how easily that degenerates into an inheritance. Believing that a representative government, responsible at short periods of election, is that which produces the greatest sum of happiness to mankind, I feel it a duty to do no act which will essentially impair that principle, and I should unwillingly be the first person, who, disregarding the sound precedent set by an illustrious predecessor, should furnish the first example of prolongation beyond the second term of office.

Jefferson's followers respected his declarations and wishes and nominated Madison for the succession. They knew the Sage of Monticello's declination was final. Can so much be said of Mr. Cleveland's ingenious letter to the editor of the "Athens Banner"?

We do not think that Mr. Cleveland will have to be sandbagged into submission to the mandate of his party, if that party decides to disregard the "sound precedent" set by Washington and commended by Jefferson.

President Roosevelt called on the widow of President Garfield at Los Angeles last Friday. The coincidence of tragedies which make and unmake Presidents, we may be sure, was the first thing in mind and the last in mention among the throng that waited outside.

BEAUTY FROM ASHES.

Housed with a mouluk of the sea,
Some atom life of mean degree
Must perish that a pearl may be.

Extinguished, in its purple cave,
From prison wall and crystal vase,
Its ruin wins a glittering grave.

Till, like a dewdrop cool and clean,
Englobed in light, a gem serene
Adorns the bosom of a queen.

O life that climbs from power to power!
Each darkness broods a brighter hour.
Each fading shows a fairer flower.

O triumph of divine desires
When human passion chokes its fires,
And all the brute in man expires!

Till then the soul of vanquished pain,
The braver loss the grander gain,
The search of love among the slain.

For God discerns with punctual eyes
The godlike where the carnal dies,
And clothes with light the ransomed prize.

"I make my jewels so," He saith,
"Of sorrow's tears, of suppliants' breath,
A glory round the dust of death."
—Theron Brown, in Philadelphia Sunday School Times.

The Field of Politics.

Convert to "Iowa Idea."

It is reported that the President has become a convert to the "Iowa idea," that he has come to an agreement with Governor Cummins, the father of the "tariff revision" movement, and has accepted the latter's plan for inserting the plank in the next Republican national platform. The President, returning from the Yellowstone en route to St. Louis, passed through Iowa, and when not engaged in the pleasant pastime of kissing the rising generation of Hawkeyes was "closeted" with Governor Cummins on board the Presidential special discussing tariff schedules. As a result he has become convinced that the governor is right, that the tariff must be "revised," not reformed, as the Democrats would do, for it must be remembered that there is a world of difference politically between "revising" the tariff and "reforming" it.

Twaddle-dee and Twaddle-dum.

This is a bit of twaddle-dee and twaddle-dum which is likely to become a great issue in the next campaign. The President and the governor, so it is reported, now thoroughly understand each other. The "Iowa idea" has been so modified as to eliminate the "shelter to monopoly" feature. That was a concession on the part of the governor. The last two Iowa State platforms declared that the Republicans favored "any modifications of the tariff schedules that may be required to prevent their affording a shelter to monopoly."

"Shelter to Monopolies."

The "shelter" part of the declaration has caused a great deal of trouble, and not all the Iowa Republicans have been able to get in under it. Ex-Speaker Henderson was one of these, for he with others contended that to say the tariff might afford a shelter to monopoly was a crime against the sacred schedules and an admission of the contention made by the enemies of protection. Now the "Iowa idea" is to be pruned, the "shelter to monopoly" is to be stricken out, and the old meaningless plank of the St. Louis platform is to be rewritten, brought up to date and palmed off as the latest and most approved form of the "Iowa idea."

Reciprocity and Protection.

The reciprocity and protection twins going hand in hand are to be substituted for the vigorous demand of the Iowa platform for tariff revision, yet Governor Cummins claims the President as a convert to his pet policy despite the fact that if the President has adopted this modified form of the "Iowa idea," he has changed his views quite materially from those which he expressed in Minneapolis at the beginning of his present tour.

Wanted Debate Deferred.

When Governor Cummins was in Washington two months ago he then sought to impress upon the President the necessity of making changes in the schedules and incorporating a tariff revision plank in the national platform, but it was generally supposed that he went back without having met with any material degree of success. The President and his counselors wanted the question of tariff deferred until after the Presidential election, and Governor Cummins, who desired to have it taken up at the next session of Congress, was forced to abandon that part of his program. His success, however, in obtaining complete mastery over the organization in Iowa and the adoption of his views as party creed in the State, inspired him to continue the discussion of the matter with the President. Hence it was no wonder that he wanted to ride in the carriage with the President and to deny that honor to Representative Hull, an anti-revisionist.

Mutual Concessions.

So it appears that concessions have been made on both sides. Governor Cummins is satisfied that he has converted the President to his way of thinking, and the whole plan is said to have the approval of Senator Allison. The proposition now is to have the next Iowa State convention, which meets about July 1, adopt the modified "Iowa idea." That will be the first gun fired by the revisionists. It will be talked about and written about a great deal, and when the national convention meets next year it will be offered as the party's declaration for tariff revision.

Must Reckon With Eastern Magnates.

All that may be very nice so far as it goes, but even if the plank had the endorsement of the President and Senator Allison, Governor Cummins will be obliged to reckon with the Eastern high protectionists—Republicans who abhor the "Iowa idea," and regard it as a step in the direction of free trade. The outcome of the matter is likely to be a straddle on the question of making changes in the tariff, one which will mean to the high protection element of the East that the sacred Dingley schedules are not to be impaired, and to the Western Republicans, who demand changes, that there will be modifications "governed by conditions." After all that is said about it, the report that the President and Governor Cummins have agreed upon a tariff plank is not so important as it might at first appear.

Machine Against Folk.

The State machine, however, is against him, but Folk's scheme does not contemplate a nomination at the hands of the regular Democratic State convention. He hopes to be nominated by the Independents, and then to receive the endorsement of the Republicans. For thirty years the latter have made unsuccessful attempts to overturn the Democratic majority and elect a Republican governor.

Folk believes that they will jump at the chance of endorsing him, in the expectation of defeating the Democratic machine. He could probably command a large campaign fund contributed by his wealthy admirers, but conservative politicians of the State declare that he could not by the exercise of any political stratagem be elected governor. Should his plan to obtain the nomination be successful, it would certainly be followed by an interesting and hard fought campaign.

May Accept Foreign Decorations.

King Edward has, as I predicted at the time of his accession, to all intents and purposes abolished the rule against English citizens, and especially servants of the English crown, accepting orders of knighthood from foreign sovereigns. The rule dates from the days of Queen Elizabeth, who in the course of language of the day intimated that she would have "no dog of hers wear the collar of any other master or mistress." It was strictly enforced until the close of the reign of Queen Victoria, the only exception ever made being in favor of the first Duke of Wellington, who, in consequence of his having exercised supreme command of the allied armies, and having crushed Napoleon at the battle of Waterloo, was permitted to accept the Order of the Golden Fleece from Spain, and the highest decorations and distinctions from those other European sovereigns who had been harassed and oppressed by the great Corsican.

The King, as Prince of Wales, showed, however, his disapproval of this rule of Queen Elizabeth by not only permitting the members of his household and of his entourage to accept foreign decorations, but even by nominating them for honors of this kind, and I could mention at least a dozen well-known Englishmen who have received the Legion of Honor from France on the nomination of King Edward while still Prince of Wales. I can also recall his hauling one of his equerries over the coals at Sandringham for having omitted to don the Order of the Dannebrog conferred upon him by King Christian of Denmark at the dinner party given there to celebrate the event.

Hundreds of Permissions Granted.

Since the King's accession to the throne hundreds of permissions to wear foreign decorations conferred years ago during the previous reign have been officially granted by him and gazetted, and on the occasion of his state visit the other day to Rome, he not only allowed all the members of his suite to accept orders of knighthood from the King of Italy, but likewise the members of the British embassy at Rome, Sir Francis Bertie (pronounced Bartie), the ambassador, receiving the Grand Cordon of the Order of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus, Sir Rennell Rodd, the secretary to the embassy, being appointed a grand officer of the Order of the Crown, all the other members of the embassy staff receiving minor decorations. The Hon. Charles Hardinge, the assistant under secretary of state for foreign affairs, and who was in attendance on the King, received on the same occasion the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Crown.

This may be regarded as constituting the abrogation of the old rule against Englishmen, and especially English gov-

TARIFF A BARRIER TO BRITISH EXHIBITS

Colonel Watson, English Commissioner, Says There Is Disposition to Hold Back

NEW YORK, May 12.—Apprehension that American manufacturers will copy the new ideas in British exhibits of industries and machinery at the St. Louis Exposition, and then, by the aid of the tariff, undersell them in America, may prevent the British industrial exhibit at St. Louis from being as liberal as expected, says Col. C. M. Watson, secretary of the British commission, who arrived on the Ivernia today.

"I cannot say very much about our exhibit," he added, "but because of your high tariff there is a disposition to hold back. It is not only so in my country, but in Germany and France."

VERONICA SEAMEN PLEAD "NOT GUILTY"

LIVERPOOL, May 12.—The trial of four seamen of the British steamer Veronica, charged with murdering the captain and crew and having then set fire to their vessel in December last, opened at the assizes today. The men pleaded not guilty.

The Veronica sailed from Ship Island, Miss., in the early part of December last. That was the last heard of her until the four seamen now on trial were picked up on a raft at sea by the British steamer Brunswick in January.

CHIEF OF POLICE DEAD.

ST. LOUIS, May 12.—Capt. Frank Fenell, chief of police of Quebec, Canada, died on a Wabash train between Toledo and St. Louis yesterday, while on his way to New Orleans to attend the convention of chiefs of police.

THE WASHINGTON TIMES CAMERA CONTEST

Prizes Offered by The Times For the Best Pictures of Subjects to Be Found in the District of Columbia—A Weekly Feature of the Paper of Interest to Everyone Who Owns a Camera.

The Times offers three prizes, of \$3, \$2, and \$1 each, for the best prints by amateur photographers of the District of Columbia from negatives made by themselves and the result of their own work through all processes. The conditions governing the awarding of the prizes are as follows: The prints submitted must be for the exclusive use of The Times in any way that it desires. Previous publication elsewhere will bar the print, and subsequent publication of a prize-winning print will not be allowed except by special permission of The Times. The print must bear the name and address of the sender, and it is safer to have

prints mounted. No print will be returned. Where possible descriptive text may be sent, but this will not be considered in awarding the prize. The composition, artistic execution, and general attractiveness of the photograph will be taken into consideration in naming the prize-winner. Title of picture and name of sender should be written on the back of the print, and not sent separately. Prints for the first competition should be delivered to The Times office not later than Saturday, May 16. The successful competitors for this week will be announced and their photographs will be reproduced Sunday, May 24.

Washington and its environments offer the amateur photographer a field as picturesque as old Mexico and as beautiful as any countryside in old England. In illustration of this a distinguished lecturer once interpolated into a discourse on the Rhine half a dozen views of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, and his audience, entirely unconscious of the subterfuge, applauded these American views rapturously. It is the hope of The Times that this competition may serve the double purpose, therefore, of arousing an interest among local photographers in pictures which have art value and of indicating to readers of The Times the comparatively undiscovered beauties of the countryside about Washington.

SKIPPER'S ECONOMY KEEPS HIM OUT OF PORT

Lies Off the Breakwater, and No Tug Will Answer His Hail.

PHILADELPHIA, May 12.—Almost as badly off as if she were high and dry ashore, the French bark Quevilly lay at anchor off the Delaware Breakwater yesterday and today unable to reach this port for want of a tugboat to tow her up the bay.

The bark is a regular oil carrier between this port, Dieppe and Rouen. She reached the Breakwater yesterday morning.

Tugboats swarmed about her on Sunday, but paid no attention to her. Regardless of the day, the French skipper raved, stamped and bellowed at the tugs, but without avail. Becoming hoarse, he finally deputed the mate to do the shouting, but that officer got a frog in his throat.

All the trouble came of the captain's idea of economy. Trading here regularly about four times a year, he thought he could save money by getting a yearly contract for towing in and out at rates "cut" below the regular port charges. He got a "cut" rate contract last year, which expired last month. The tugboat man with whom the contract was made owned a boat which was only licensed to go as far as Bombay Hook, and he was not able to go to the bark. He explained the matter to the Tugboat Owners' Association, and several of his competitors having ocean going boats agreed to help him out until the expiration of his contract, provided he did not renew it for another year. They claim that he has broken his agreement by making a contract for the coming year with the Frenchman, who arrived here from Dieppe on Sunday, the vessel being consigned to the Continental Oil Company at Marcus Hook. Hence they refuse to tow the bark, and who will foot the bill for demurrage on the vessel if the boycott is kept up is a problem.

As long as the weather is fine and the vessel is in no danger, there is no law to compel the tugboat captains to tow the Quevilly to port. If a storm should blow up and the vessel were in danger of going ashore or "getting into lumber," the towboat men would reap a harvest of salvage.

NEW CUNARDERS WILL HAVE 65,000 HORSE POWER

Tonnage of Coming Giants Will Be 32,000—To Be Longest Vessels Afloat

LONDON, May 12.—Telegrams from Liverpool say the displacement of the new 25-knot Cunard line steamers will be 32,000 tons and that they will have 65,000 horse power.

Various indefinite statements as to the size of the new express steamers for the Cunard line have been published, but the figures given above probably come from the steamship officials. The projected vessels are so much beyond precedent in size and contemplated speed that the element of uncertainty has necessitated much careful planning. They will be approximately 760 feet on the water line, with 80 feet beam. As about 18,000 horse power is the most that has been put hitherto on one shaft, it has been thought wise to adopt the triple shaft and triple screw system. With 65,000 horse power the new liners will have nearly 55 per cent more than the Kaiser Wilhelm II, which has 42,000, and more than double the total of the Lusitania. In a statement sent to the "New York Herald" by wireless telegraphy as the new Kaiser passed the Nantuxet Lightship, Herr Plate, president of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, declared that it would take 65,000 horse power to reach a sustained speed of 24 to 24½ knots, and 100,000 horse power to reach 25 knots. He believed the limit of speed had almost been reached.

The new Cunard ships will be fifty-four feet longer than the Kaiser Wilhelm II, now the longest vessel afloat. Their displacement, however, will be 6,200 tons less than that of the Cedric, which will still remain the largest vessel in existence.

MANY TROUT KILLED.

WESTFIELD, Mass., May 12.—Bushels of dead trout have been taken from Powder Mill Brook, one of the most important trout streams in western Massachusetts. Sportsmen believe that the fish were purposely killed by laborers employed in street railway construction, who threw lime into the water to stupefy the trout that they might easily be caught.

DIE OF FEVER.

COLON, May 12.—Augusta, Eleanor and Elizabeth Shaler, three sisters of Col. J. R. Shaler, superintendent of the Panama Railroad, died here of fever on April 24, May 4, and May 10 respectively. The Shalers' home was in Pittsburg.

It is designed that the field of competition be as broad as possible, that the amateur shall be altogether free in his choice of subject. His pictures may depict landscapes, seascapes, portraits, paintings, groups of statuary, or studies in genre. The measure of merit will be correspondingly broad and the award of the prizes will depend on many things—originality in composition, naturalness of effect, ingenuity in development and printing, beauty, the expression of sentiment, the relation of a story, or any of the general qualities which distinguish the photograph made by the lover of beautiful pictures from that made by those who use the camera only mechanically.